

A SINGULAR BIPED.

THE OPTIC has actually run across a man in this city who believes that the city of Las Vegas should not own its own water system but should quietly submit to the continued extortion of a greedy corporation. He thinks that the citizens of Las Vegas should be thankful for the filthy stuff that for several weeks every year comes down the pipes and, though in a majority of cases is not used, has to be paid for nevertheless. He thinks that, notwithstanding, that eighty per cent of the cities of the United States own and operate their own works that municipal ownership is a failure.

He would rather drink mud and occasionally go to a neighbors well and borrow water, or catch it in a rain barrel, than have plenty of it roll out of his hydrant in pure and wholesome quantity.

He is the kind of an individual who would rather see the parks of the city dry up for lack of water and go to weeds and be the means of driving strangers from town through private ownership of the water than to see these breathing spots seeded to nice blue grass dotted here and there with beautiful flowers and be the means of attracting the stranger and deciding him to make his home here.

He is the kind of an individual that desires to see the lawns go to waste and does not care to see every home in his city a beauty spot.

He is the kind of individual who perhaps has his own houses insured for more than the actual value and would take particular delight in seeing his neighbors' home burn to the ground because the private owned water system cannot furnish water enough to flow out of the top of a nozzle to put it out.

He is one of those individuals who hasn't any children of his own and doesn't care a continental whether his neighbors' children suffer with cramps or dysentery or perhaps die from drinking impure water.

He is the kind of an individual who drinks beer and doesn't know what a drink of good water is and doesn't appreciate the fact that there are others who do know what good water is and occasionally have a desire to drink it.

He is the kind of an individual who would no doubt concede the right to a few individuals to get a corner on the air we breathe, if such a thing were possible, and pay them whatever they asked, so much per breath.

This individual is worrying himself to death about the taxes he imagines he will have to pay if the city puts in its own water works never thinking for a minute that the Kentucky company has been sending a sum annually equivalent to almost one-half of the total amount of taxes collected by San Miguel county to the Kentucky bondholders paying interest on a sum equivalent to the debt of San Miguel county.

Now, this individual, is not an imaginary biped but actually lives in Las Vegas and breathes the pure, free air from the mountains because, no doubt, he cannot buy any to breathe. He pretends to be a business man, too, and cannot see any business sense in the

the citizens of Las Vegas paying their water rent to the city, and in that manner in time pay for the works and leave a legacy for their children. He cannot for the life of him see how the citizens of the entire city of Las Vegas who collectively pay more money into the coffers of the Agua Fria company than they pay to the county collector for taxes, can afford to patronize themselves by patronizing a municipal water system, and no amount of argument could convince him that if the Agua Fria company can put \$50,000 or \$80,000 more of an investment in this plant, and make it pay, that the city could do the same thing.

However, this individual is the only one in the city that we know of and there isn't any danger that he will be able to convert anyone else to his way of thinking, and the city's progress will not be retarded by his ilk in the least.

A Mother Tells How She Saved Her Little Daughter's Life.

I am the mother of eight children and have had a great deal of experience with medicines. Last summer my little daughter had the dysentery in its worst form. We thought she would die. I tried everything I could think of, but nothing seemed to do her any good. I saw by an advertisement in our paper that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy was highly recommended and sent and got a bottle at once. It proved to be one of the very best medicines we ever had in the house. It saved my little daughter's life. I am anxious for every mother to know what an excellent medicine it is. Had I known it at first it would have saved me a great deal of anxiety and my little daughter much suffering.—Yours truly, Mrs. Geo. F. BURDICK, Liberty, R. I. For sale by K. D. Goodall, Druggist.

Mrs. C. L. Ashton of Silver City, has arrived at Leipzig, Germany, where she is studying in a conservatory of music.

Spain's Greatest Need.

Mr. R. P. Olivia, of Barcelona, Spain, spends his winters at Aiken, S. C. Weak nerves had caused severe pains in the back of his head. On using Electric Bitters, America's greatest Blood and Nerve Remedy, all pain soon left him. He says this grand medicine is what his country needs. All America knows that it cures liver and kidney trouble, purifies the blood, tones up the stomach, strengthens the nerves, puts vim, vigor and new life into every muscle, nerve and organ of the body. If weak, tired or ailing you need it. Every bottle guaranteed, only 50 cents. Sold by Murphey-Van Petten Drug Co. and Browne & Manzanara Co.

H. H. Kidder is constructing a store building near the terminus of the Hanover railroad.

It Never Disappoints.

People who are troubled with any disease caused or promoted by impure blood or a low state of the system may take Hood's Sarsaparilla with the utmost confidence that its faithful use will effect a cure. Millions take it as a spring medicine, because they know by experience it is just what the system needs.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver tonic. Gentle, reliable, sure.

Bear, mountain lions and wolves are harassing the cattlemen of Grant county.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

H. M. Godfrey, secretary of the Kansas City board of public works, thus describes the operation of the water plant in that city:

"The plant was in poor condition when it was purchased by the city September 1, 1895. To pay for and improve it the city issued \$3,100,000 4 per cent bonds. Since purchasing water rates have been reduced 15 per cent and \$500,000 profit netted in addition to paying interest on the bonds. Of the \$500,000 cleared \$150,000 is in the sinking fund and the balance used in extension of mains. Meter rates are 31 cents per 1,000 gallons where the quantity used does not exceed 2,000,000 gallons per month, and to consumers whose large quantities a rate of 5 cents per 1,000 gallons is made. Our experience with municipal ownership has been very successful and satisfactory to consumers."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Murphey-Van Petten Drug Co. and Browne & Manzanara Co.

Victor C. Heikes, honorary special agent of the department of mines and metallurgy for the commissioner general of the United States to the Paris exposition, was in Grant county for the purpose of securing a mineral exhibit from that county.

If you can't work well in hot weather, take PRICKLY ASH BITTERS, it regulates the important organs of the body and fortifies the system to resist the enervating influence of summer heat. For sale by Murphey-Van Petten Drug company.

An exciting game of ball took place at Graham between the Grahams and the Mogollons for \$300 a side. The Mogollons won by a score of 17 to 13.

Volcanic Eruptions

Are grand, but skin eruptions rob life of joy. Bucklen's Arnica Salve, cures them; also Old, Running and Fever Sores, Ulcers, Boils, Felons, Corns, Warts, Cuts, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Chapped Hands, Chilblains. Best pile cure on earth. Drives out Pains and Aches. Only 25 cts. a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold by Murphey-Van Petten Drug Co. and Browne & Manzanara Co.

"TEN more regiments" for the Philippines has a martial sound, says the New York World. But it means an addition of \$12,500,000 a year to the taxpayers' burden. It means the loss of two or three thousand more American lives. It means an ultimate addition of six or eight thousand names to a pension list now near the million mark. And all for what?

THE Itaton Reporter says: After suffering for years with an inadequate water system, operated by a private corporation, the city of Las Vegas has decided to put in a water plant of its own. The preliminary steps to that end were taken last week and it is announced by the city officials that the realization of their plans for a good water system under municipal ownership, will be accomplished without any unnecessary delay.

The glow and glitter of royalty is ours after these many weary and kingless years. Uncle Sam is about to buy a live, reigning Sultan for the modest sum of \$10,000 in Mexican silver. There isn't a particle of doubt about the genuineness of the article, either. His dusky Majesty of Sulu, who is graciously prepared to acknowledge American sovereignty in consideration of an annual subsidy of 10,000 50-cent dollars, is the real thing. His nether limbs are inclosed in the baggy breeches of the Orient; a voluminous turban, the distinguished badge of a true son of Islam, encircles his royal head; he has a body guard, a grand vizier, a skilled operator in the noble science of administering the bastinado, and a harem which is replete with secluded eastern beauty. Nothing is lacking to complete the glory of the purchase. We are buying no rude upstart who has seized the throne by violence. Our new tributary is the proud descendant of a line of monarchs who never did a minute's work in all their lives. The fact that his ancestors were pirates merely adds to the charm of the proceedings.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Bismarck's Iron Nerve

Was the result of his splendid health. Indomitable will and tremendous energy are not found where Stomach, Liver, Kidneys and Bowels are out of order. If you want these qualities and the success they bring, use Dr. King's New Life Pills. They develop every power of brain and body. Only 25c at Murphey-Van Petten Drug Co. and Browne & Manzanara Co.

Germans Willing to Fight.

JOHANNESBURG, August 24.—At a meeting here of 200 Germans, a committee was appointed to express to the Transvaal government the willingness of Germans to volunteer for service in case of war, but requesting that they be enrolled in a separate corps on account of the hardships endured by the Germans in the Magato campaign.

He eats heartily in the hottest weather who uses PRICKLY ASH BITTERS. It keeps his stomach, liver and bowels in perfect order. Sold by Murphey-Van Petten Drug company.

Appeals to the Queen.

LONDON, August 24.—Considerable alarm was created yesterday evening by a man throwing a letter into Queen Victoria's carriage as she was driving into Osborne, Isle of Wight. A rumor spread to the effect that the letter contained an explosive, but this turned out to be false. The police arrested the man whose letter was only an appeal to her majesty to secure for him a new trial in a civil suit which he recently lost. The prisoner was found to be a German, who was not aware that his action was against the law. As it was evident he had no intention to do harm the man was released. The queen was surprised when the letter fell in her lap but betrayed no alarm.

Skin Diseases.

For the speedy and permanent cure of tetter, salt rheum and eczema, Chamberlain's Eye and Skin Ointment is without an equal. It relieves the itching and smarting almost instantly and its continued use effects a permanent cure. It also cures itch, barber's itch, scald head, sore nipples, itching piles, chapped hands, chronic sore eyes and granulated lids.

Dr. Cady's Condition Powders for horses are the best tonic, blood purifier and vermifuge. Price, 25 cents. Sold by